

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /123 W
-----014038 061541Z /12

P 061503Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8685

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 7795

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, VE

SUBJECT: LOS: CONVERSATION WITH ANDRES AGUILAR

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR AUGUST 5, ANDRES AGUILAR
MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. THE EL NACIONAL INTERVIEW OF JULY 24 (CARACAS 7417)
DISTORTED HIS VIEWS AND WAS AN INACCURATE REFLECTION OF
THEM. HE HAD COMPLAINED TO THE REPORTER, AND HAD DECIDED
(AND THE PAPER HAS INVITED HIM) TO WRITE AN ARTICLE TO
PORTRAY AND "OBJECTIVE" ACCOUNT OF WHAT IS INVOLVED AND
WHAT HAPPENED.

B. HE ACKNOWLEDGED ENGO'S DIFFICULT PERSONALITY AND
DID NOT TRY TO DEFEND THE PROCESS THAT PRODUCED THE
SEABEDS' TEXT, BUT HE DID DEFEND THE PROCEDURES OF
COMMITTEE II AND HIS OWN LEADERSHIP.

C. HE WAS AFRAID THAT WE HAD OVERREACTED AND HE
BELIEVES IT WOULD BE A TRAGEDY IF THE U.S. BACKS OUT OF
THE CONFERENCE. THERE IS SO MUCH AT STAKE IN ALL
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ASPECTS OF THE LOS THAT IT SIMPLY CANNOT BE LOST; IN ONE
SENSE NEW LAW HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE. THE WORLD CANNOT
AFFORD THE CHAOS THAT WOULD RESULT FROM COLLAPSE OF
TREATY EFFORTS.

D. SOME RENEWAL OF INFORMAL CONTACT ON SEABEDS
AND OTHER ASPECTS SEEMS ESSENTIAL. RIGHT NOW PEOPLE ARE

EXHAUSTED, BUT PERHAPS THERE SHOULD BE SOME KIND OF PRIVATE "INTERSESSIONAL" MEETING ABOUT JANUARY, SIMILAR TO PRIVATE MEETINGS CASTENEDA OF MEXICO HAD SPONSORED.

E. WE SHOULD NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE FEAR OF MULTI-NATIONALS INFLUENCE NOR THE G-77'S INSISTENCE ON NEW RULES OF THE GAME. RHETORIC ABOUT THE COMMON PATRIMONY OF MANKIND WAS DEEPLY FELT AND HELD, AND IT WAS SIMPLY NOT POSSIBLE TO REVERT TO THE "OLD" RULES AND SYSTEM OF EXPLOITATION OF RESOURCES.

F. THE TROUBLE WITH THE PARALLEL SYSTEM, AS HE HAD SAID IN GENEVA, IS THAT PARALLEL LINES ARE ONES THAT NEVER MEET. AT SOME POINT, THESE SYSTEMS HAD TO CONVERGE AND A "NEW ORDER" ESTABLISHED. HE ACKNOWLEDGED

THAT REVIEW IN 20 YEARS SPOKE TO THIS POINT, BUT THE G-77 WAS SERIOUS THAT SOME RESHAPING OF THE SYSTEM WAS NECESSARY. AT THE SAME TIME, HE ACKNOWLEDGED THE INTERESTS OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AND THE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS OF SECURING SENATORIAL RATIFICATION WHICH MADE ALL THE MORE NECESSARY SOME FRANK AND FURTHER DISCUSSION.

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G. THE GOV WILL HOLD AN INTERNAL REVIEW THIS WEEK (PROBABLY AUGUST 9) OF LOS MATTERS. PRESIDENT PEREZ HAS ASKED FOR A THOROUGH BRIEFING AND UPDATING ON THE ISSUES AND SITUATION.

2. AMBAESADOR TOOK THE OCCASION TO STRESS TO AGUILAR THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH WE VIEWED WHAT HAPPENED ON THE SEABEDS AND THAT OUR TOLERANCE WAS STRETCHED TO THE BREAKING POINT; AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON'S STATEMENT WAS NOT SIMPLY A TACTICAL MOVE OR THREAT BUT A SERIOUS AND SINCERE EXPRESSION OF OUR VIEW; AND THAT WE WERE IN FACT AT A "CRUNCH" POINT. HE PROMISED TO PASS ON AGUILAR'S VIEWS AND SUGGESTION OF AN "INTERSESSIONAL."
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, TEXT, SEABED, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETINGS
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1690434
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS: CONVERSATION WITH ANDRES AGUILAR
TAGS: PLOS, VE, US, LOS, (VAKY, VIRON P), (AGUILAR, ANDRES)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3b4fe360-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009